The International Center for Health Outcomes and Innovation Research (InCHOIR) is an interdisciplinary Data and Clinical Coordinating Center (DCC) in the Department of Health Evidence and Policy at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Since its inception in 1995, one of InCHOIR’s core missions has been the design, conduct, and analysis of multi-center trials and observational studies. Over the past 7 years, the Center was awarded over $80M in clinical research funding. The core faculty and staff of 62 have expertise in clinical trial operations, biostatistics, clinical epidemiology, health economics, decision analysis, quality of life, and health policy analysis.

InCHOIR provides a coordinating center infrastructure for multi-center clinical trials and observational studies, including design, regulatory expertise and management, endpoint and event adjudication and DSMB management, data management, and FDA-compliant web-based electronic data capture systems development and implementation. The Center’s analytical expertise includes survival analysis, analysis of composite endpoints (such as MACCE), development and validation of risk scores, quality of life and economic analyses, and the analysis of imaging, and biomarker data. The Center is actively contributing to the methodology of design and analysis of clinical trials, including composite endpoints, multiple endpoints, combining information from randomized and non-randomized sources (using both classical and Bayesian methods), and adaptive trial designs. The Center has also been actively involved in using Bayesian methods to interpret the uncertainty associated with cost-effectiveness ratios and adapting the use of longitudinal methods for analyzing quality of life. The Center is committed to sustaining a high level of communication among investigators, achieving enrollment targets, ensuring high quality data, and participating in the analysis and dissemination of results.

Selected NIH-funded projects from InCHOIR’s research portfolio include the NHLBI-supported REMATCH trial (design, conduct and analysis of the 22 US clinical center trial); DCC for an NHLBI Specialized Clinical Center of Research (SCCOR) grant to elucidate and modulate the biology of the interface between implanted mechanical circulatory support devices and patients with heart failure; the ongoing NINDS-supported ARUBA Trial (66 sites across Europe, the U.S, Canada, South America, and Asia); and the DCC for the ongoing NHLBI-supported Cardiothoracic Surgical Trials Network (with 34 leading cardiac surgery centers). The industry supported research portfolio includes the design, conduct and analysis of a number of FDA-approved trials with newer generations of continuous flow left ventricular assist device (LVADs).

The Health Outcomes Core within InCHOIR is equipped with an extensive library of administrative and clinical datasets and has experience in analyzing claims and survey data, including Medicare, Medicaid, University Hospital Consortium, State-wide discharge databases, NIS and NHDS. Research focuses on geographic variations, learning curves, transition of care programs, patient safety issues, and the clinical and economic impact of diagnostic and therapeutic interventions.

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